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BOOK REVIEWS

- L. Annaei Senecae Dialogorum Liber xii., *Ad Helviam Matrem de Consolatione*. Par CHARLES FAVEZ. Lausanne-Paris: Libr. Payot et Cie., 1918. Pp. lxix+109.

It is cheering to note the appearance of this useful edition of an important Senecan essay, especially at the present time. Its contents will mean more to those exiles of the last half-decade who have suffered and endured; there will be new life in the old words: "nec secunda sapientem evehunt nec adversa demittunt; laboravit enim semper ut in se plurimum poneret, ut a se omne gaudium peteret" (v. 2). One also notes with interest that M. Favez signs his preface at Clarens, the haunt of Rousseau, that Senecan admirer whose first essay reproduced much of the style and many of the ideas of the Roman philosopher.

The text is based almost entirely upon Gertz. The editor deviates only in a few cases, such, for example, as xi. 6, page 64, where he rejects the *faecis* of the Danish scholar for the *luis* of Ellis, which is textually sounder, though it may not keep up so well the metaphor of the preceding *sincerus animus*. M. Favez is also completer in his critical notes than was Mr. Duff in his edition of 1915; but this is natural in an edition devoted wholly to one essay instead of three. *Ersanuari*, page 9, and *lautissimum*, page 43, are cases in point.

The Introduction does not contribute anything especially new, except the passage from Stilpo, quoted by Teles, p. xlviii. There is unnecessary repetition with regard to the *casa Romuli*, pp. lxii and lxiv. The twofold cause of Seneca's exile is attractively set forth, with a lenient interpretation of Seneca's relations with Julia Livilla, based rather upon the two rival court parties of Messalina and Agrippina than upon any clear case against the philosopher. We cannot help feeling that 8 B.C. is a few years too early to place Seneca's birth; and we are disappointed, after an announcement that the *Consolatio* will be thoroughly discussed as a type, to find little more real information than we found in Summers' (1910) foreword to the sixty-third epistle of Seneca, which is a *consolatio* in miniature.

The general commentary, however, is delightfully clear and copious, as indeed is the essay itself, "de tous les ouvrages de Sénèque le mieux composé peut-être." It is not devoted so much to translational helps as to exposition of the argument, the style, and the matter. Rhetorical points, with comparisons from the Elder Seneca, are woven into the notes in harmonious sequence, bringing out the idea that the piece is more of an essay than an address. There

is more of value here than in the Introduction. This is exemplified by M. Favez' note on the second person of *cogitas*, xiii. 3, p. 74, indicating that in certain remarks "il ne s'adresse pas à elle ici, mais à cet adversaire fictif qu'il fait parler au l." *Vicos*, ix. 2, p. 42, is certainly to be interpreted as a "block of houses" rather than as a "street." The notes, for example, to page 14 are a model of penetrating clearness.

To sum up, this makes the *Consolatio ad Helviam* accessible in French as well as in English, a fact which will be of service to a better understanding of an Empire prose artist who has in the past been taken for granted without being sufficiently understood.

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Zur Geschichte der gymnischen Agone an griechischen Festen. By THEOPHIL KLEE. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1918.

This is the dissertation of a young Swiss scholar published after his death by the piety of friends. Its chief contribution is the first publication of about thirteen pages of inscriptions from Cos which their discoverer, Professor R. Herzog (*Archaeolog. Anzeiger*, 1909, p. 190; 1905-11), turned over to the author to edit. The fragmentary inscriptions are lists of the victors at the Coan Asclepieia, dated *ca.* 250-178 B.C. (p. 18).

Taking these as his text or pretext the author discusses in successive chapters the programs and the order of events, the age classes, the festival dates, and the lists of victors for the four great games of the *periodos*, the seven other games of Pan-Hellenic significance for which we have inscriptions, and several local and minor contests. Without being able to solve finally the many technical problems that still remain in doubt, he re-collects the evidence and weighs the opinions of Förster, Hyde, Juthner, Gardiner, Paton and Hicks, and others. His book will be indispensable to the special student of the subject, and, as Professor Herzog says in his *Nachruf*, it will also be a useful and convenient work of reference for Greek chronology by reason of its lists of dated names.

To the student of Pindar and of Greek literature its chief service is the more vivid realization it brings of the place held in Greek life by these contests and of the minuteness and particularity of their arrangements and classifications. The editors of Pindar comment rarely or slightly on ἀγέριαι (O. 8. 54, 9. 89.), and many students doubtless are left with the impression that it is a mere synonym for "boy" or "youth." It was technical for the class between boy and man, and Klee discusses the recognition or non-recognition